

REMARKS

The present Amendment revises the specification, drawings, claims and Abstract in order to conform to the requirements of United States patent practice.

The cancellation of claims 1-18 in favor of the claims submitted herein has been

5 made solely for the purpose of presenting a set of claims in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. No change in any claim has been made for the purpose of distinguishing any claim over the teachings of the prior art, and no deviation from the language of claims 1-18 in the claims presented herein is considered as a surrender of any of the subject matter encompassed within the

10 scope of the original claims.

Consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 3, 2004.

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APPENDIX A
DRAWING CHANGES